

Index Section
RECEIVED
JAN 1 1923
U.S. DEPT. OF AGRIC.

Let to Angier
and L. Munn
with copies of this
memo 12/6/22
H. C. 5913

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Memorandum of request for information concern-
ing dates in Morocco, Tripoli and Fez, received
from Mr. Paul Popenoe, Coachella, California,
by Consul Maurice P. Dunlap.

The fact is that I am working on the date varieties
of the world (of which I have some 1300 catalogued) and
those of Libia and Morocco are in very bad shape; the
latter indeed almost unknown, though there are millions
of palms and an important commerce on the Saharan side
of the Atlas mountains. What I want to put up to you
is as follows:

1. Do you suppose the Department of State could
ask the appropriate Consul to send in a list of all the
date varieties grown in Libia, the transliterated names
to be accompanied by the spelling in Arabic characters
as well? This sounds like a much more formidable under-
taking than it is; all he needs to do is to ask some
intelligent native land owner living in the city and
the latter can sit down and turn out a complete list in
10 minutes. The Arabs in date-growing countries have an
intimate knowledge of the matter.

2. Could you get the Consul in Morocco to send in
a similar list for that country. This he will have to
get from one of the native merchants, of whom there are
a number

a number who handle the exportation of dates to England and Spain. He is not likely to find a palm-owner in town, though he may easily find plenty of men who have lived in the palm country and can name the varieties.

The spelling in Arabic character is extremely important because without it I can scarcely tell what the names really are.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CONSULAR BUREAU

December 7, 1923.

DC2.

It is suggested that the
accepted spelling is "Libya"

December 6, 1923.

Harris N. Cookingham, Esquire,
American Consul,
Tunis, Tunis.

Sir:

The Department transmits herewith a copy of a memorandum containing a request from Mr. Paul Popenoe, of Coachella, California, for information concerning the culture of dates in Morocco and in Libya, which you will utilize for your assistance in the preparation of an early trade letter addressed to Mr. Popenoe, for submission to the Department in triplicate.

A similar instruction is being sent to the American Consul General at Tangier, Morocco, with directions to endeavor to procure that part of the information applicable to Morocco.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

For the Secretary of State:

Robert C. Henderson

Enclosures:

Copy of memorandum.

865 C.6159/-

HCC+EJB

DC-2

Co

865 C. 6159/-

No. 279.

AMERICAN CONSULATE,

Tunis, Tunisia, April 14, 1924.

The duplicate here of to Inspector.

SUBJECT: Nomenclature of Dates grown
in Libya.

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

SIR:

I have the honor, in reference to the Department's instruction of December 6, 1923, File 865 C. 6159/-, calling upon this Consulate to endeavor to compile for a Mr. Paul Popenoe, of Coachella, California, a list of all the varieties of dates grown in Libya, with names (a) spelled in Arabic characters and (b) transliterated, respectfully to report, to my regret, that I have thus far, owing to lack of my contact with the distant region in question, been unable to obtain the extremely specific information desired by the inquirer. I shall, however, continue my best endeavors in this direction and shall submit promptly any affirmative data that I may be fortunate enough to secure on the subject above mentioned.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Very respectfully,

James H. [Signature]
American Consul, Tunis.

Enclosure.

Very truly,
[Signature]

FILED
JUN 17 1924

765 C. 6159

File

File

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Central File: Decimal File 865C.6159, Internal Affairs Of States, Agriculture., Fruits., Libya, Other Fruits. Apple. Apricot. Cherry. Date. Nectarine. Peach. Pear. Persimmon. Pineapple. Plum. Quince., December 7, 1923 - April 14, 1924. December 7, 1923 - April 14, 1924. MS European Colonialism in the Early 20th Century. National Archives (United States). Archives Unbound, link.gale.com/apps/doc/FSC5109729952/FGDSC?u=3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC. Accessed 18 June 2025.